

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in reply to the Final Office Action dated September 9, 2010. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination of the patent application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.113.

Summary of the Examiner's rejections

Claims 1-3, 11, 22-23, and 28-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0033806) in view of Snyder et. al. (US 2003/0134631).

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0033806) in view of Snyder et. al. (US 2003/0134631) and Bovo et. al. (US 2003/0148755).

Claim 6-8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0033806) in view of Snyder et. al. (US 2003/0134631) and Satt et. al. (US 2004/0248583).

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0033806) in view of Snyder et. al. (US 2003/0134631) and Komandur et. al. (US 7327708).

Claims 12 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0033806) in view of Snyder et. al. (US 2003/0134631) and Jiang et. al. (US 2002/0044527).

Claims 13, 14, and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0033806) in view of Snyder et. al. (US 2003/0134631) and Chamaytelli et. al. (US 2002/0194325).

Claims 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0033806) in view of Snyder et. al. (US 2003/0134631) and Sen et. al. (US 6208620).

Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0033806) in view of Snyder et. al. (US 2003/0134631) and Johnson et. al. (US 2003/0237016).

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0033806) in view of Snyder et. al. (US 2003/0134631) and Yokoyma et. al. (US 2004/0243715).

Claims 24-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0033806) in view of Snyder et. al. (US 2003/0134631) and Lau et. al. (US 7466652).

Claim 31 is allowed.

Summary of claim amendments

Applicant has canceled claims 1, 28 and 30 (without prejudice), amended claims 2, 10-17, 19-20, 22-24, 29 and 31, and added new claims 32 and 33. The allowed independent claim 31 was amended to correct an antecedent error and address a clarity issue. The dependent claims 2, 10-17, 19-20, 22-24 have been amended to depend from the allowed independent claim 31 and in some cases to correct an antecedent error. The new independent claims 32 and 33 correspond to the previously presented independent claims 28 and 30 (now canceled) and recite limitations that are the same as or similar to the limitations in the allowed independent claim 31. The dependent claims 29 and 31 have been amended to depend from the new independent claims 32 and 33, respectively. No new subject matter has been added.

Remarks regarding the §103(a) rejections

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims 2-8, 10-20, 22-27, 29, and 31-33 all contain subject matter that has been indicated by the Examiner to be allowable subject matter in view of the cited prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the removal of the pending rejections.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the application to be in a condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for pending claims 2-8, 10-20, 22-27, 29, and 31-33.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees for this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-1379.

Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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